

**DECLARATION  
FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN  
PATENT APPLICATION**

☐ Declaration Submitted With  
Initial Filing

☒ Declaration Submitted After  
Initial Filing

Attorney Docket No.: **85304**

Customer No.: **22242**

First Named Inventor: **THEODOR GERHARD  
RÖSCH**

Application Number: **10/531,513**

Filing Date: **April 15, 2005**

Art Unit: **3731**

Examiner Name: **Not Yet Assigned**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**A METHOD OF FEEDING A SUTURE ELEMENT**

*(Title of Invention)*

the specification of which:

☐ is attached hereto, or

☒ was filed by an authorized person on my behalf on 4/15/05 as United States Application Number 10/531,513 or PCT International Application Number \_\_\_\_\_, and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below, and I have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or any PCT international application, on this invention filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns and having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior  
Foreign Application  
Number(s)

✓ 2002/8423

Country

SOUTH AFRICA

Foreign  
Filing Date

October 17, 2002

Priority  
Not Claimed

☐  
☐  
☐

- ☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet attached hereto.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Provisional Application  
Number(s)

NONE

Provisional Application  
Filing Date

NONE

- ☐ Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet attached hereto.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120, of any prior United States application(s), or under §365(c) of any PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known by me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56, which became available between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior U.S.  
Application Number

✓ NONE

Prior PCT  
International  
Application Number

PCT/IB2003/004489

Filing Date  
of U.S. or PCT  
International  
Application

October 10, 2003

Patent Number  
(if applicable)

NONE

- ☐ Additional U.S. or PCT international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet attached hereto.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the practitioners associated with Customer Number 22242 with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and request that all correspondence and telephone calls in respect to this application be directed to FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY, Suite 1600, 120 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603-3406, Telephone No. (312) 577-7000, Facsimile No. (312) 577-7007, CUSTOMER NUMBER 22242.

Rec'd PCT/PTO 01 NOV 2005

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made herein on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity or enforceability of the application or any patent issued thereon.

1-00 Full name of sole or one  
joint inventor:

THEODOR GERHARD RÖSCH

(Given names first, with Family name last)

Inventor's signature:

Date:

24-5-2005

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